THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) No, Sir, As on 1-2-1986 the stock of iron ore at Gua was 8.68 lakh tonnes and at Chirea it was 2-33 lakh tonnes.

(b) No, Sir. Bulk of IISCO's requirements of iron ore are met from its captive mines.

(c) No, Sir. The iron ore content of purchased ore is higher than the iron ore content of its capative mines.

(d) The Mineral Exploration Corporation has calculated that iron ore content of ore at Chiria at 63 %

(e) The iron ore from Gua and Chiria/Manoharpur is inherently soft and friable in nature with low iron content and adverse alumina/silica ratio. Since IISCO does not have the facility of a sinter plant, it is to chno-logically necessary to mix hard iron or of better alumina/silica ratio. This hard iron ore with lower alumina si lica ratio is not available at the capa tive mines of IISCO at Gua, Chiria or Manoharpur and hence they have to purchase iron ore of better quality from the MMTC which is a public sector Undertaking and OMDC which is under the management control of the Central Government.

Purchased iron Ore acts as a sweetening agent in the blast furance burden at IISCO. The linkage plan of IISCO is approved by the Steel Authority of India Limited.

**Lowering of agricultural land ceiling limits**

*8g. SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA :
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleasad to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in May, 1985, the State Revenue Ministers had agreed that agricultural land ceiling limit be lowered for a family of five members to 5 hectares for the best category of land with assured irrigation and capable of raising at least two crops a year, 7.5 hectares for next category of land with assured irrigation for at least one crop a year and 12 hectares for the rest; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made by each State and Union Territory in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH):
(a) and (b) In the Conference of the State Revenue Ministers held in May, 1985 the consensus was that this issue would be considered by the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. The States Union Territory Administrations are yet to take a final view on the issue.

**Foundry grade pig iron used by Foundary Units in Gujarat**

*9o. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL : SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that against the allotment of 14000 metric tons per month of foundry grade pig iron, the receipt by Gujarat has been on an average 7 to 8 thousand metric tonnes;

(b) if so, what are thi reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Gujarat Small Industries Corporation has been given permission to import 25000 metric tonnes of pig iron through MMTC;

(d) whether customs duty on im ported pig iron makes the imported commodity costlier and if so, to what extent;

(e) whether Government have received representation from the

Gujarat Government that concession on the import duty announced on Ist August, 1985 is not beneficial to Gujarat;

(f) whether the Gujarat Government has urged the Central Government to reduce import duty upto 40 percent; and

(g) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard and what is the current difference in the prices of the imported and the local commodity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. G PANT): (a) No, Sir. The average supply per month during the period April, 1985 to January, 1986 has been 12,240 tonnes.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Gujarat Small Industries Corporation Limited has been given permission to import 23,000 tonnes of pig iron through MMTC during 1985-86.

(d) Duty paid landed cost will depend upon the GIF value of import per tonne which varies depending upon various factors like time of contracting, country of origin, availability of the material in the international market. However, based on published prices the landed cost with duty is higher.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The representation from the Gujarat State was for a reduction in the import duty of pig rion. On 9-12-85, the import duty was reduced from 70% to 55%. Currently the landed cost of imported pig iron is somewhat hgiher than the indigenous price.

**Drinking water supply in Mizoram**

*91. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are. aware that drinking water was sold for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 per bucket during the last summer in Mizoram especially in Aizawal;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to augment the drinking water supply in Mizoram and

(c) what amount lias been allocated for supply of drinking water in Mizoram for the year 1986-87 as compared to that in 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) No such report has been received in this Ministry.

(b) Urban water supply is in the State sector. The Govt, of Mizoram is implementing a scheme called the Greater Aizawal Water Supply scheme intended to augment the existing level of water supply to 30 gallons per capita per day. The scheme is expected to be completed by 30th June 86.

(c) The required information is contained in the statement placed on the Table of the House.

**statement**

*The outlay approved by the planning commission for water supply and sanitation sector of mizoram administration during 1985-86 and 1986-87*

(Rs. in lakh)

| Year | Approved outlay for MNP | Outlay for programmes other than MNP (Urban Water supply, Urban Sanitation, Rural Sanitation). |
|---|---|---|
| 1985-86 | 259 | 296 |
| 1986-87 (tentative outlay) | 250 | 465 |